

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A portable card comprising:
a substrate with opposing surfaces having a
predetermined shape, and defining a slot-like hollow area
extending longitudinally between the opposing surfaces; and
an accessible embedded storage member disposed inside
the hollow area and having at least one layer of storage
material for storing information enclosed by said
substrate, said storage member being movable within the
hollow area and said substrate being adapted to be
transported relative to each other the substrate such that
the storage member is extractable from the hollow area to
expose at least a portion of said storage member to
facilitate processing of stored information,
and retractable for embedment of said storage member within
said hollow area of said substrate.

2. (Original) The portable card of claim 1 wherein
said storage member is in the form of an elongated strip
member.

3. (Original) The portable card of claim 1 wherein
said storage member is in the form of a circular member.

4. (Original) The portable card of claim 1 wherein
said substrate has first layer and a second layer each
having an obverse side and a converse side operatively
coupled to each other with the obverse side of said first
layer positioned in an opposed relationship from the
converse side of said second layer enabling at least a
portion of said first layer to be moveable relative to said

second layer and wherein a storage member is located on at least one of the obverse side of said first layer and converse side of said second layer.

5. (Original) The portable card of claim 4 wherein first layer and a second layer are pivotally mounted relative to each other enabling movement in a first direction exposing at least a portion of at least one of the storage member located on the obverse side of said first layer and the storage member located on the converse side of said second layer to facilitate processing of stored information and enabling movement in a direction opposite to said first direction to embed said at least one storage member within said substrate.

6. (currently amended) A portable card adapted to interact with a data processing station when the portable card and the data processing station are moved relative to each other, comprising:

a substrate with opposing surfaces having a predetermined shape, and defining a slot-like hollow area extending longitudinally between the opposing surfaces; and

an accessible embedded storage member enclosed within the hollow area of said substrate, said accessible storage member having at least one layer of storage material for storing information in a predetermined format for processing by a data processing station, said storage member being movable within the hollow area ~~and said substrate being adapted to be transported relative to each other~~ the substrate such that the storage member is extractable from the hollow area to expose at least a portion of said storage member to a data processing station

to facilitate processing of stored information, and retractable for embedment of said storage member within said hollow area of said substrate.

7. (Original) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said at least one layer of storage material for storing information in a predetermined format is a magnetic medium.

8. (Original) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said at least one layer of storage material for storing information in a predetermined format is an optical medium.

9. (Original) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said at least one layer of storage material for storing information in a predetermined format is a magneto-optical medium.

10. (Previously Presented) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said at least one layer of storage material for storing information in a predetermined format is at least one layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material for storing magnetic signals.

11. (Previously Presented) The portable card of claim 6 further comprising:

an abradable protective coating formed on said magnetic material layer.

12. (Original) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said substrate is moved relative to said data processing station.

13. (Original) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said data processing station is moved relative to said substrate.

14. (Original) The portable card of claim 6 wherein said data processing station and said substrate are moved relative to each other.

15. (currently amended) A portable card adapted to be used in a card processing system having a data processing station comprising:

a substrate with opposing surfaces having a predetermined shape, and defining a slot-like hollow area extending longitudinally between the opposing surfaces; and

a removable and reinsertable accessible embedded storage member disposed inside the hollow area and having at least one layer of storage material for storing information enclosed by said substrate, said storage member being movable within the hollow area and said substrate being adapted to be transported relative to each other the substrate such that the storage member is extractable from the hollow area to remove and expose at least a portion of said storage member to facilitate processing of stored information by a data processing station, and for embedment of said storage member within said hollow area of said substrate.

16. (Original) The portable card of claim 15 wherein said storage member has at least one layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material for storing magnetic signals.

17. (Previously Presented) The portable card of claim 16 wherein said storage member further includes:

an abradeable protective coating formed on said magnetic material layer.

18. (Original) The portable card of claim 17 wherein said at least one magnetic material layer is a thin film layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material having a predetermined magnetic field orientation for storing data.

19. (Original) The portable card of claim 17 wherein the protective coating has at least one layer which includes a magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material.

20. (Original) The portable card of claim 17 wherein the protective coating has at least two layers wherein one of said layers includes a magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material and the other of said layers is a non-magnetic friction reducing layer formed on said one of said layers.

21. (Original) The portable card of claim 17 wherein said at least one magnetic material layer is formed of a high density, high coercivity magnetic material having a predetermined magnetic field orientation and wherein said protective coating has at least one layer which includes a magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material and wherein said data storage device further includes:

a non-magnetic material layer positioned between the protective coating and said at least one magnetic material

layer, said magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material being responsive through said non-magnetic layer to predetermined magnetic field orientation to produce a magnetic image field in a direction opposite to said predetermined magnetic field orientation.

22. (Original) The portable card of claim 17 said at least one magnetic material layer is formed of a high density, high coercivity magnetic material having a predetermined magnetic field orientation and wherein said protective coating has at least two layers wherein said one of said layers includes a magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material and the other of said layers is a non-magnetic abrasion friction reducing layer formed on said one of said layers and wherein said data storage device further includes:

a non-magnetic material layer positioned between the protective coating and said at least one magnetic material layer, said magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material being responsive through said non-magnetic layer to predetermined magnetic field orientation to produce a magnetic image field in a direction opposite to said predetermined magnetic field orientation.

23. (currently amended) A portable card adapted to be used in a card processing system having a data processing station comprising:

a substrate with opposing surfaces having a substantially planar and generally rectangular shape, and defining a slot-like hollow area extending longitudinally between the opposing surfaces; and

at least one removable and reinsertable accessible embedded storage member disposed inside the hollow area and having at least one layer of storage material for storing information enclosed by said substrate, said storage member being movable within the hollow area and said substrate ~~being adapted to be transported~~ relative to each other the substrate such that the storage member is extractable from the hollow area to remove and expose at least a portion of said storage member to facilitate processing of stored information by a data processing station, and retractable for embedment of said storage member within said hollow area of said substrate.

24. (currently amended) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said at least one removable and reinsertable accessible embedded storage member generally rectangular in shape.

25. (currently amended) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said at least one removable and reinsertable accessible embedded storage member generally circular in shape.

26. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said substrate encloses at least two removable and reinsertable accessible embedded storage members which are generally rectangular in shape.

27. (Previously Presented) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said substrate encloses at least three removable and reinsertable accessible embedded storage members which are generally rectangular in shape.

28. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said substrate has two opposing surfaces and one of said two opposing surfaces includes an integrated circuit located thereon.

29. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said data processing station includes a transducer.

30. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said at least one layer of storage material is a magnetic medium and said transducer is an inductive head.

31. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said at least one layer storage material is a magnetic medium and said transducer is a thin film head.

32. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said at least one layer storage material is a magnetic-optical medium and said transducer is a magnetoresistive head.

33. (Original) The portable card of claim 23 wherein said at least one layer storage material is a magnetic medium and said transducer is a giant magnetoresistive (GMR) head.

34. (Previously Presented) The portable card of claim 30 wherein said at least one layer of magnetic material has a predetermined magnetic field orientation that is substantially perpendicular to a data processing station.

35. (Original) The portable card of claim 30 wherein said at least one layer of magnetic material has a predetermined magnetic field orientation that is substantially parallel to a data processing station.

36. (Original) The portable card of claim 30 wherein said at least one layer of magnetic material has a predetermined magnetic field orientation that is at an acute angle to a data processing station.

37. (Original) The portable card of claim 30 wherein said magnetic medium is at least one thin film layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material is a sputtered layer.

38. (Original) The portable card of claim 37 wherein said magnetic medium is least one thin film layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material is a plated layer.

39. (Original) The portable card of claim 30 wherein said at least one thin film layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material is an oxide layer.

40. (Original) The portable card of claim 31 wherein said at least one thin film layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material is a web coated layer.

41-65. (Cancelled)

66. (currently amended) A data storage device comprising a substrate with opposing surfaces and defining

a slot-like hollow area extending longitudinally between the opposing surfaces; and

an accessible embedded storage member disposed inside the hollow area and having a predetermined shape, said storage member having at least one layer of storage material for storing information enclosed by said substrate, said storage member being movable within the hollow area and said substrate being adapted to be transported relative to each other the substrate such that the storage member is extractable from the hollow area to expose at least a portion of said storage member to facilitate processing of stored information.

67. (Original) The data storage device of claim 66 wherein said storage member and said substrate are adapted to be transported relative to each other for embedment of said storage member within said substrate.

68. (Original) The data storage device of claim 66 wherein said storage member includes at least one layer of high density, high coercivity magnetic material for storing data.

69. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 68 wherein said storage member includes:

an abradable protective coating formed on said magnetic material layer.

70. (Original) The data storage device of claim 69 wherein the magnetic material layer is formed of a substantially isotropic material.

71. (Original) The data storage device of claim 70 wherein the isotropic material is a magnetic thin film alloy including platinum.

72. (Original) The data storage device of claim 69 wherein the magnetic material is formed of an anisotropic material.

73. (currently amended) A magnetically encoded card comprising a substrate with opposing surfaces having a predetermined shape, and defining a slot-like hollow area extending longitudinally between the opposing surfaces; and an accessible embedded storage member disposed inside the hollow area and having at least one layer of magnetic recording material for storing information enclosed by said substrate, said storage member being movable within the hollow area ~~and said substrate being adapted to be transported relative to each other~~ the substrate such that the storage member is extractable from the hollow area to expose at least a portion of said storage member to facilitate processing of stored information by a transducer, and for retractable embedment of said storage member within said hollow area of said substrate.

74. (Previously Presented) The magnetically encoded card of claim 73 further comprising:

a bendable, abradeable protective coating formed on said at least one layer of magnetic material.

75. (Original) The magnetically encoded card of claim 74 wherein said protective coating includes a magnetically

permeable, magnetically saturable material as an independent layer disposed on said substrate.

76. (Original) The magnetically encoded card of claim 75 wherein said protective coating includes a non-magnetic friction resisting material as a separate layer disposed on said magnetically permeable, magnetically saturable material.

77-84. (Cancelled)